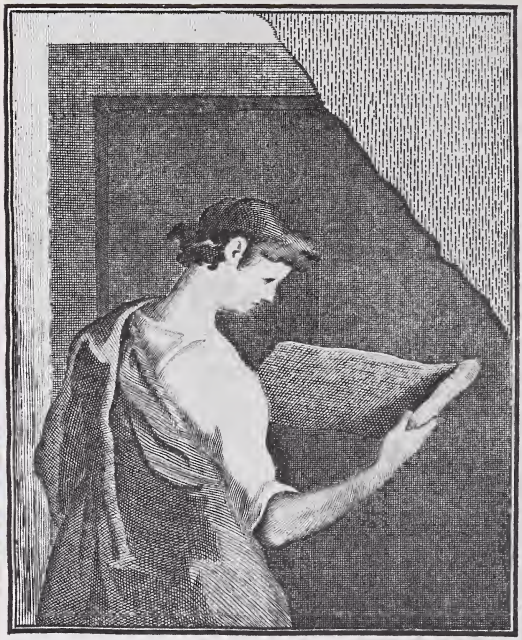
anxp
N
12
R88
A1
1879



THE J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM LIBRARY

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Getty Research Institute

https://archive.org/details/annualreportofco1879roya

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

PAINTING, SCULPTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

INSTITUTED 1826.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1838.

EDINBURGH: THOMAS AND ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE,

PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN, AND TO THE UNIVERSITY.

1879.

THE J. PAUL GETTY CENTER
LIBRARY

Council and Office-Bearers

OF THE

ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY

OF

Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 12TH NOVEMBER 1879.

Council.

SIR DANIEL MACNEE, PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE.

CHARLES LEES, ESQ.
J. B. MACDONALD, ESQ.
JOHN SMART, ESQ.

W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ.
W. F. DOUGLAS, ESQ.
J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ.

WILLIAM BRODIE, ESQ., SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE.

CHARLES LEES, ESQ., TREASURER AND TRUSTEE.

J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ.,	TRUSTEE.
ROBERT HERDMAN, ESQ., W. F. DOUGLAS, ESQ.,	AUDITORS.
JOHN HUTCHISON, ESQ.,	LIBRARIAN.
CHARLES LEES, ESQ., J. B. MACDONALD, ESQ.,	CURATORS OF LIBRARY.
WILLIAM M'TAGGART, ESQ., W. E. LOCKHART, ESQ., ROBERT HERDMAN, ESQ., J. M. BARCLAY, ESQ.,	VISITORS OF THE LIFE SCHOOL.

REPORT.

THE COUNCIL for the past year, in proceeding to give in the Report of their official duties, have to congratulate the Academy on its continued prosperity.

I. The Exhibition opened, with a private view, on the 31st January, and to the general public on the 1st February, being about a fortnight earlier than formerly. The number of Works exhibited was one thousand and eighty-one. The Exhibition was generally admitted to be one of the best ever held in Scotland. It contained works of a high class by the Members, while it was also enriched by important contributions from Honorary Members and other artists. There was also a full representation of Messrs. MacLeay, Chalmers, and Bough, whose works—except in special cases—can no more appear on the walls.

II. In consequence of so many Members having been removed by death during the preceding months, it was resolved for this year to dispense with the usual Annual Dinner on the eve of the opening of the Exhibition.

III. At the Annual General Meeting held on the 13th November 1878, Messrs. Robert Gibb, Robert Alexander, and W. B. F. Hole, were elected Associates of the Academy, to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Messrs. Thomas Clark and James Docharty, and the resignation of Mr. Peter Graham, A.R.A., *H*.R.S.A.

IV. At a General Meeting, held on the 4th December 1878, Arthur Mitchell, M.D., LL.D., was elected Professor of Ancient History, in room of the late David Laing, LL.D. At a subsequent meeting, Sir Frederick Leighton, President of the Royal Academy, was elected an Honorary Member, and Wm. Turner, M.B., F.R.S., was elected Honorary Professor of Anatomy to the Academy. Letters from these gentlemen, acknowledging their election, will be found in the Appendix.

V. At the Statutory Meeting of the Academy, held on the 10th February, for the purpose of filling up the vacancies caused by the lamented death of Kenneth MacLeay and Samuel Bough, Messrs. James Cassie and Robert Gavin were duly elected Academicians. These elections, added to that of Mr. Lockhart, have caused three vacancies in the rank of Associates, which have to be filled up at the Meeting at which this Report is read.

VI. The following is the report of the Librarian and Curators of Library :—

"The attendance of Members in the Library on the evenings of Monday and Thursday has increased during the past session, and a larger number of books has been given out on loan.

"The following books have been added to the Library during the past year :—

"Supplemento á collecção dos Tratados, Convencões, Contratos, e Actos Publicos, celebrados entre a Corôa de Portugal, e as mais Potencias, Desde, 1640. Por Julio Firmino Judice Biker, Primeiro Official, Chefe de Repartição, Archivista e Bibliothecario, do Ministerio dos Negocios Estrangeiros, socio Correspondente do Instituto de Coimbra. 9 vols.

"Collecção dos Negocios de Roma, no Reinado de El-Rey Dom José I., Ministerio do Marquez de Pombal, e Pontificado de Clemente XIV., 1769-1774. 3 vols.

"Documentos Ineditos, Para Subsidio á Historia Ecclesiastica de Portugal. Lisboa, 1875.

"Memoria sobre o Estabelecimento de Macau, escripta Pelo Visconde de Santarem. Abbreviado Relação da Embaixada que El-Rei D. João y Mandou ao Imperador da China e Tartaria. Relatorio de Francisco de Assis Pacheco de sampaio a El-Rei D. José I. Dando conta dos successos da Embaixada, a que fôra mandado á Côrte de Pekim no Anno de 1752. Lisboa, 1879.

Presented by JULIO FIRMINO JUDICE BIKER, Lisbon.

"Old Edinburgh, by James Drummond, R.S.A. Reproduced in Facsimile from his original Drawings, now in the National Collection of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Edinburgh and London, 1879.

"Catalogue of the Library of the Soane Museum. Printed for the use of the Trustees. Presented by the Trustees of the Soane Museum.

"The Cyclopædia of Costume, or a Dictionary of Dress. Including Notices of Contemporaneous Fashions on the Continent; and a General History of the Costumes of the principal Countries of Europe. With numerous Illustrations. By James Robinson Planche, Esq., Somerset Herald. London, 1879.

(Signed) "JOHN HUTCHISON, *Librarian.*
CHARLES LEES, *Curator.*
J. B. MACDONALD, *Curator.*"

VII. The Report of the Visitors of the Life School is as follows :—

"The Visitors are glad to be able to give a very satisfactory report of the Life School. The Evening Class, beginning on 8th November and closing on 1st July, had an average of 20 Students; whilst the Morning Class, from the 14th March till 27th June, had an average of 19. It is unnecessary to say more as regards attendance, than that frequently the room was inconveniently crowded, and that the numbers are virtually limited by the accommodation. As to the quality of the work executed during the Session, it properly rests with the President and Council to express an opinion; but the Visitors cannot refrain from testifying to the consistent diligence in work, and unvarying propriety of conduct, which characterised the class throughout the year.

"The changes in the system of conducting the School (in accordance with the resolution of the Academy of 10th March last) were introduced at the beginning of the summer session, and the Visitors take this opportunity of expressing their entire approval of them. They are of one mind in believing that a manifest improvement has been effected, both by the appointment of a Curator, and by increasing the number of the class hours. The large and regular attendance, continuing nearly undiminished till the close of the Session, showed how fully the Students appreciated the new advantages afforded them. The Visitors would only further add that Mr. Stanton, as Curator, has established himself in their opinion as admirably fitted for this important post; and they are hopeful that under his supervision, and with the increased facilities for study, the Life School will now be in a position, as regards efficient working, more worthy of the Academy than it has hitherto been.

(Signed) "ROBERT HERDMAN, *Visitor.*
WILLIAM M'TAGGART, *Visitor.*
J. M. BARCLAY, *Visitor.*
W. E. LOCKHART, *Visitor.*"

The Council feel highly gratified to receive such a favourable report of the success which has attended the new

arrangements for carrying on the Life Class, and after careful examination they are satisfied that there has been much good work done during the past session, the equality of merit displayed in many of the studies rendering it no easy task to adjudge the prizes, which were ultimately awarded as follows :—

For the best Painting from the Life (The Chalmers Prize), . . .	J. Fraser Taylor.
For the second best, . . .	George Bathgate.
For the best Drawing from the Life, .	George Bathgate.
For the second best, . . .	Wm. S. Black.
Sculpture Prize, ...	T. S. Burnett.
Keith Prize for best work by a student in this year's Exhibition, . .	J. Fraser Taylor.
Maclaine Watters Medal, . . .	J. Fraser Taylor.
Stuart Prize—Equal, . . .	Andrew Young. George Reid. J. T. Ross.

The designs sent this year in competition for the Stuart Prize are much superior to those submitted last year; and the Council, after selecting the works of Messrs. Young, Reid, and Ross, felt such difficulty in deciding which was the best that they resolved to divide the prize equally among them.

VIII. The Council have the satisfaction of announcing that their Honorary Professor of Anatomy intends to give during the winter some anatomical demonstrations on the living subject to the Students of the Life Class. The Council have no doubt that the Students, as well as the Members, will fully appreciate this praiseworthy intention of the Professor to introduce what has long been felt to be a great want in the curriculum of the Life School.

IX. The following additions have been made to the Academy's collection of Works of Art:—

"Glencoe—1692," Diploma Work of J. B. Macdonald, R.S A.

"Morning—East Coast of Scotland," Diploma Work of the late James Cassie, R.S.A.

"The Moorish Maiden's First Love," Diploma Work of Robert Gavin, R.S.A.

Bust of the late Kenneth MacLeay, R.S.A., by Patrick Park, R.S.A.
Presented by his daughter, Miss MacLeay.

"The Two Friends," by Thomas Duncan, A.R.A., R.S.A.

"The Gossips," by John Graham Gilbert, R.S.A.

The two latter works bequeathed by the late Alexander Fleming, Esq., W.S.

The Council have also the pleasure of intimating the bequest, by their late respected Professor of Ancient History, David Laing, LL.D., of an interesting and valuable collection of original drawings, studies, and designs by deceased artists, which, when arranged in volumes by the Librarian—a task of very considerable difficulty—will be of great use for consultation and study.

X. The Council for 1877-8 closed their Report with a notice of the death of a much-valued Member,—Mr. Kenneth MacLeay,—and scarcely had the Report been given in when another Member of great ability and usefulness was taken away in the height of his fame and fulness of his power,—Mr. Samuel Bough having died at his residence at Jordan Bank on the 19th November. Mr. Bough was born in Carlisle in 1822, and early in life was employed in the legal profession, but he very soon left the desk and devoted himself to Art, sketching and painting most assiduously, with very little assistance or instruction from any one. He afterwards had considerable experience in Scene-painting,

and attained great dexterity in handling the brush. In 1856, soon after he had made Edinburgh his permanent residence, he was elected an Associate of the Academy, and in 1875 he was raised to the rank of Academician. He was a strong supporter of the Annual Exhibitions, and since his connection with the Academy the number of works exhibited by him was limited only by the number that could be received from one artist. Mr. Bough was a great painter both in Oil and Water-colour.

XI. In another part of this Report the Council record the election of Mr. James Cassie to the rank of Academician, and here it is their painful duty to report his death on the 11th May, only three months thereafter. Mr. Cassie was born at Inverurie in the year 1819, and removing early in life to Aberdeen, was admitted as a pupil by the late James Giles, R.S.A., in whose studio he remained several years. His first works were portraits and landscapes, but having always a strong love for the sea, he soon devoted himself to the department of Art with which his name will be most associated. His pictures of the coast scenery of his native land were executed with a thorough feeling for the effects which he loved to study and delineate.

For more than thirty years Mr. Cassie was an exhibitor in the Galleries of the Royal Scottish Academy. On being elected Associate in 1869 he resolved to settle in Edinburgh, and was last February raised to the rank of Academician.

XII. The Council have also to report the death of Captain J. Maclaine Watters, the founder of the Maclaine Watters Medal, in whom the Academy has to lament the loss of a sincere friend, who, in a letter written only a few weeks before his death, says:—"The principal feature in the life

I had sketched for myself was to become acquainted with our Scottish Academicians, and throw all my influence and my ample fortune into furthering the Arts of my country." But this was not to be: in the beginning of this year he died at Glasgow, at the early age of thirty-two.

XIII. It is gratifying to the Council to have to report the bequest of a thousand pounds (£1000) by the late Mrs. Chalmers or Collie, mother of their lamented brother-Academician, Mr. George Paul Chalmers,—the interest of which is to be given by the Council annually as a prize in the Life School.

The interest which has accrued since receiving the money will be given as directed at the first delivery of prizes.

The documents connected with Mrs. Collie's bequest will be found in the Appendix.

XIV. The Council, at a Meeting held on the 23d December 1878, resolved to present a humble address of sympathy and condolence to Her Majesty the Queen, on the death of her beloved daughter the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, to which a most gracious reply was received. A copy of the address and reply will be found in the Appendix.

DANIEL MACNEE,
President.

ROYAL ACADEMY,
EDINBURGH, 12*th November* 1879.

APPENDIX.

Letter from ARTHUR MITCHELL, Esq., M.D., LL.D.

BEDFORD HOTEL, GLASGOW,
5th December 1878.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg you to convey to Sir D. Macnee and the Academicians my deep-felt thanks for the great honour they have conferred on me in electing me Honorary Professor of Ancient History to the Academy.

While I ask you to convey to the Academy my thankful acceptance of this honour, I am full of the sense of unworthiness, and of my inability to fill the place of David Laing.—I am, yours faithfully,

(Signed) ARTHUR MITCHELL.

WM. BRODIE, Esq., R.S.A., etc.,
Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh.

Letter from SIR FREDERICK LEIGHTON, *President of the Royal Academy.*

ATHENÆUM CLUB, PALL MALL, S.W.,
Christmas Day 1878.

DEAR MR. BRODIE,—I have just received the letter in which you inform me that the Members of the Royal Scottish Academy have conferred on me the distinction of Honorary Membership of that body, and I hasten to ask you to convey to them my grateful sense of the high honour they have done me.

Pray, at the same time, offer to your and my President the expression of my great personal regard.—And believe me always, yours very truly,

(Signed) FRED. LEIGHTON.

Letter from WILLIAM TURNER, Esq., M.B., F.R.S.

6 ETON TERRACE,
EDINBURGH, *December* 24, 1878.

MY DEAR MR. BRODIE,—I have the honour to receive your letter of yesterday in which you communicate to me the very pleasing information that I have been unanimously elected to the Honorary rank of Professor of Anatomy to the Academy. Will you kindly convey to the President and Council my thanks for the honour they have bestowed upon me, and for the very handsome terms in which the appointment has been made. It is to me source of much gratification to be associated with so distinguished a body of Artists as the Members of the Royal Scottish Academy,—Believe me, very truly yours,

(Signed) W. TURNER, M.B., F.R.S.

EXCERPT FROM TRUST-DISPOSITION AND SETTLEMENT BY MRS. MAY TORRY OR CHALMERS OR COLLIE, DATED 15TH FEBRUARY 1879.

I leave and bequeath to the Royal Scottish Academy, to found a Bursary to be called the "Chalmers Bursary" in connection with their Life School, in which my late son took a deep interest, the sum of One thousand pounds, and I direct my said Trustees to pay over said sum to the Trustees of said Academy to be held by them in trust, and the annual income thereof to be applied by them for said purpose.

. . . . . .

And I direct my said Trustees to pay free of legacy-duty and expenses all the foregoing legacies and bequests at the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas after my death.

COPY ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE SENT TO HER MAJESTY ON THE DEATH OF THE PRINCESS ALICE, SENT 26TH DECEMBER 1878.

May it please your Majesty,

We, your Majesty's dutiful subjects, the President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy, beg leave

humbly to approach your Majesty with the expression of our profound sorrow for the sad calamity which has befallen your Majesty, in the removal by death of your beloved daughter, Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse.

We remember with sorrowful thankfulness the pre-eminent and rare virtues which shone so conspicuously in the sainted Princess, for whom the whole British Empire mourns with your Majesty. One who was so exemplary as a daughter, so loving as a sister, so devoted as a wife, and so self-sacrificing as a mother, could not fail to be endeared to and deeply mourned by every one in this Empire, as well as in the country of her adoption.

Your Majesty's Royal daughter has left behind her a better and a nobler than historic name in her life of unsullied virtue, untiring usefulness, and unselfish devotion to suffering.

We mourn deeply the loss sustained in the death of one so loved, and humbly beg leave to express our sympathy with your Majesty and your Royal House, and pray fervently that the God of all consolation may comfort and uphold your Majesty in this your great sorrow; and with sentiments of devoted loyalty we subscribe ourselves, in name of the Royal Scottish Academy, your Majesty's most devoted Subjects and Servants,

(Signed) DANIEL MACNEE, *President.*
WILLIAM BRODIE, *Secretary.*

ANSWER TO MEMORIAL TO HER MAJESTY.

OSBORNE, 29*th December* 1878.

DEAR SIRS,—I have laid before the Queen the Address of Condolence transmitted by you.

In reply, I am commanded by Her Majesty to request that you will assure the President, Council, and Members of the Royal Scottish Academy that the Queen sincerely appreciates the kind and touching words in which they allude to her dear daughter, Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse; and I am further to ask you to thank these gentlemen for their expressions of sympathy and condolence.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) HENRY F. PONSONBY.

WM. BRODIE, Esq.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, held in the Academy Library, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 12th November 1879, the Office-bearers were elected, and the Council declared for the ensuing year, as follows, viz. :—

Council.

SIR DANIEL MACNEE, President and Trustee.

W. E. LOCKHART, Esq.
W. F. DOUGLAS, Esq.
J. M. BARCLAY, Esq.
GOURLAY STEELL, Esq.
WALLER H. PATON, Esq.
JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq.

WILLIAM BRODIE, Esq., Secretary and Trustee.
CHARLES LEES, Esq., Treasurer and Trustee.

J. M. BARCLAY, Esq.,	Trustee.
ROBT. HERDMAN, Esq.,	Auditors.
W. F. DOUGLAS, Esq.,	
JOHN HUTCHISON, Esq.,	Librarian.
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq.,	Curators of Library.
W. F. DOUGLAS, Esq.,	
WM. M'TAGGART, Esq.,	Visitors of the Life Academy.
W. E. LOCKHART, Esq.,	
J. M. BARCLAY, Esq.,	
ROBERT HERDMAN, Esq.,	

NOTE.

At the same Meeting Messrs. R. Anderson, J. Lawton Wingate, and R. Campbell Noble, were elected Associates of the Academy.

GETTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
3 3125 01481 3295